

HASTED HUNT

PHOTOGRAPHY

TOWN OF DREAMS Paolo Ventura's scenes of a fictional Italian circus town in the 1950s are presented in "Winter Stories," his latest exhibit at Hasted Hunt. The large-format color photographs are remarkably realistic. Figures in fedoras loiter outside an abandoned bookstore, while circus-goers in raincoats hold slick umbrellas above their heads. Mr. Ventura, a former fashion photographer for magazines such as Vogue and Elle, constructed the set design and the costumes for each scene, down to the subway stations and windows in a department store. Selections from the exhibit include "Winter Stories #31" (2007), above. *Through Saturday, April 12, Tuesday–Saturday, 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Hasted Hunt, 529 W. 20th St., 3rd floor, between Tenth Avenue and the West Side Highway, 212-627-0006, free.*